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The Bates Student

THE VOICE OF BATES COLLEGE SINCE 1873

WEDNESDAY September 24, 2014

Vol. 144, Issue. 3

Lewiston, Maine

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Marijuana legalization on the ballot

The drug will still be prohibited on campus regardless of the outcome

ALEX DAUGHERTY
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Lewiston voters will be voting on more than just candidates in the upcoming November election. Earlier this month, the Lewiston City Council scheduled a vote to determine whether the recreational use of marijuana should be legalized.

Citizens for a Safer Maine submitted a petition with 863 signatures calling for the legalization of marijuana for adults 21 and over. The City Council had the option of approving the measure, but instead chose to send it to a referendum.

Bates will not allow the recreational use of marijuana on campus if the measure passes, however.

"We have consulted with the Lewiston Police and they have let us know that they would be obligated to continue to enforce relevant state law regarding marijuana," Assistant Dean of Students Carl Steidel said. "For this reason, the college would also still be obligated to continue to prohibit marijuana use on campus since our policies cannot be in conflict with state law."

The measure would legalize the use of marijuana in private spaces. Marijuana cannot be used in public places or by anyone under 21. Landlords will have the option of banning the drug on their premises.

Portland passed a similar ballot measure with overwhelming support last November, but local police have continued to issue citations for marijuana use in private spaces. Marijuana is decriminalized in Maine, meaning that anyone who is in possession of less than 2.5 ounces of the drug is issued a citation instead of facing arrest.

The Bates Democrats are supportive of marijuana legalization making its way on the ballot.

"We're a very diverse group, and it wouldn't be representative to say that every member of the club as a whole

supports yes or no," Bates Democrats President Teddy Rube said. "However, we all agree that it's good for city residents to be able to have their voices heard and decide for themselves."

Bates Democrats will focus their efforts towards on-campus voter registration this fall and supporting local Democratic candidates. "If marijuana legalization is an issue that energizes residents and students, we certainly hope they take advantage of voting on the rest of the issues and the candidates on the ballot," Rube said.

The Bates Republicans were also contacted for this article but did not respond to an interview request.

Batesies have mixed opinions on marijuana legalization.

"I think [marijuana legalization] is a good thing," senior Amit Dubey said. "The police won't be arresting people for smoking pot and instead can focus their time on real crimes such as theft and murder."

Lewiston Police have indicated that they will enforce state laws and not the local law if the referendum is passed, according to Steidel. This means that the impacts of the referendum are largely symbolic.

"It's up to law enforcement to do what they want to do," first-year Santi Rozas said. "If there is a precedent they should do whatever that is. I personally think they should follow the local laws if they are cops from Lewiston, and state police should follow state laws."

"The police should enforce local law," first-year Cole Limbach said. "It's more practical to legalize it because it's so expensive to enforce. Alcohol causes more problems and disrupts more lives than pot."

Students will still face disciplinary penalties if they are caught using marijuana on campus.

"It is likely that any marijuana vio-

See MARIJUANA, PAGE 4

Bates makes history: People's Climate March

Sixty students travel to NYC over the weekend



Bates students make their voices heard at the People's Climate March. PHILLIP RIBACK / THE BATES STUDENT

ANNA LUIZA MENDONCA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It's rare to realize a particular point in time when one is making history. This past Sunday, Batesies had no doubt about it as they marched alongside a staggering 400,000 people down the streets of New York City in the People's Climate March.

The People's Climate March was a movement organized in anticipation of an UN summit meeting on climate change held September 23rd.

Bates Energy Action Movement (BEAM) coordinated the trip. Students

drove down to New York on Saturday in preparation for the march the following day. Bobcats from all class years stayed in different homes in and around the city; a Bowdoin student even offered to house some Batesies.

First-year Hope French expressed her amazement at the openness of others to host people in their homes. "This kind of transcends the idea that this event is Bates students going to a march," said French. "It's genuinely just people banding together for a common goal."

This march was not a novelty for BEAM. Unlike other groups on campus that work to locally promote environ-

mentally-friendly tasks, BEAM is "the link to national scale protests" for climate justice, as treasurer Ali McKay '16 explains.

BEAM is also active in the divestment movement. The divestment movement is essentially a call for different organizations, in this case colleges and universities, to distance themselves and stop investing in fossil fuel companies. The People's Climate March was BEAM's first big project of the school year, but organization for this project

See MARCH, PAGE 4

Welcome to the neighborhood: Off-campus houses and community relations

Students in off-campus houses get neighborly



Students on Mountain Avenue foster strong, neighborly relations. ASHLEEN O'BRIEN / THE BATES STUDENT

JULIA MONGEAU
MANAGING NEWS EDITOR

Living off-campus is draw for many seniors at Bates. Senior Rockwell Jackson thought "it would be an amazing opportunity to live with all my closest friends." It is in fact an opportunity to live with a larger group of friends and begin the transition to adulthood. Students learn responsibilities such as pay-

ing bills, preparing meals, maintaining a yard, taking out the garbage—and having neighbors.

Relationships between Lewiston neighbors and Bates students living off-campus has the potential, if not already, to be positive.

"If students are living amid neighbors, whether it is here in Lewiston or any city, the expectation is that the neighbors will be able to live alongside without concern for disruptions to their

lives," said Assistant Dean of Students James Reese. "Many of us at Bates come from communities outside of Lewiston, and the expectations of what we desire when living next or near to people is the same in our original communities."

When Bates students make the decision to live off-campus, they are no longer simply college students but citizens of Lewiston, and they must behave accordingly.

Seniors Erica Gagnon and Rockwell Jackson reside in an off-campus house on Mountain Avenue. They and their housemates are adjusting to their newfound freedom, which comes with being good neighbors.

"One thing my housemates and I have worked on is being quiet and respectful that people around us have work or places to be early the next morning," said Gagnon.

Reese points out that Lewiston residents like to live near campus. Robert Strong, Lecturer in English and Graduate Fellowships Advisor, as well as faculty liaison to the baseball team, demonstrates this desire to blend with the campus community. Strong and Director of Writing Hillory Oakes chose to buy houses close to campus because they "wanted to fully invest and participate in the community of Bates Col-

lege." As a resident with two small children, Strong recognizes the importance of strong, neighborly relations.

"When students choose to live in off-campus housing in our neighborhood, they—and everyone who visits them—are also choosing to be neighbors with everyone who lives on this street," said Strong.

The surrounding neighborhood is very much a part of the Bates community. The walk up Mountain Avenue in particular boasts many Bates faculty and staff members, including the Dean of Students, the Chief Diversity Officer, a few professors, and numerous residents in the apartment building. "All of us, students and non-students, know what makes for a good neighbor," said Strong.

When off-campus living serves a purely social means, there is a potential for problems. A small gathering of close friends can soon escalate into a large party, and many of the attendees may not respect the hosts' rules or expectations. Reese acknowledges that escalated parties and poor behavior are not always intended, nor the hosts' own doing, but nonetheless the residents of the house are responsible for maintaining a respectful environment. Reese notes that Bates students like to be social together, but the social events with alcohol in-

volvement can pose real challenges to the relationship with their neighbors.

"If some students want to [drink and act immaturely] they should not be able to do so at the expense of off-campus students or act on any assumptions that their immature or wrong practices are fine with the hosts," added Reese.

Reese makes clear "that weekends off-campus should be just like Tuesdays off-campus—quiet."

This expectation for a quiet, peaceful environment is, as Reese explains, "a blunt reality" and preferably the "normal and natural reality."

"This may be an adjustment for some due to past practices of reputation, but it is necessary to mend and go on to blend life with our off-campus neighbors," said Reese.

Maintaining strong relationships with neighbors is important to the off-campus experience. Gagnon and her housemates have already made substantial efforts.

"So far we have had great experiences with all of the residents around us," said Gagnon. "We want to make sure they get to know us and we supply them with phone numbers to reach us

See OFF-CAMPUS, PAGE 4

[Announce]: Announce is dead

NICK MCCARTHY
ASSISTANT FORUM EDITOR

The [announce] system was originally implemented in the mid-1990s to broadcast a tragedy—that a Bates student had passed away. This is the sort of information that ought to be disseminated to the school community quickly, effectively, and thoroughly. It is the type of information that concerns each and every member of the Bates community. It is the type of information that legitimately ought to be included in the [announce] model.

The issue with the [announce] system is that it is so disorganized and overused that it has become entirely ineffective. It is abused to the point that it no longer fulfills its very necessary duty. And, unfortunately, it has become problematic enough so as to no longer be a true solution.

The purpose of the [announce] system, in its earliest iteration, was to inform the Bates community of immediate, imperative issues. The system, in its current iteration, does indeed fulfill this purpose, on occasion, but it is also used to broad-

cast information that only concerns smaller sects within the greater Bates community. This is a clear misuse of its original intent. Below is a brief list, chosen at random, of [announce] email subject lines currently sitting in my inbox.

[Announce] Room Change: German Club General Interest Meeting.

[Announce] Circus Club Training Tonight.

[Announce] AASIA Sushi Night...Postponed.

These emails do not concern me. While I may love sushi, I have never signed up for AASIA or the German Club. And while I think it's hilarious that there is actual circus training occurring on the Bates campus, you won't see me playing a clown or juggling balls of fire while walking a tightrope any time soon.

Roughly 30 [announce] emails are sent daily; sometimes fewer, sometimes more. I'd say that, on average, 3 to 4 of these emails concern me in some way. However, these all too frequently get lost in

See ANNOUNCE, PAGE 3

Green Lewiston?

Voters in Lewiston will determine legalization of marijuana

AMAR OJHA
ASSISTANT FORUM EDITOR

On November 6th, 2012, Colorado and Washington became the first two states in the nation to legalize the use of recreational marijuana.

Washington Initiative 502 ("on marijuana reform") led to a voter turnout of 81%, credited as one of the highest in the nation. This suggests that the issue of marijuana legalization is something that the general public feels strongly about, and it appears that it has finally reached the polls.

This November 4th, Lewiston residents will have the opportunity to vote on the legalization of marijuana in their city. Lewiston would be the second city in Maine to legalize the drug, Portland being the first back in 2013, passing with about 70% of votes in favor. That year, Portland became the first city on the East Coast to legalize recreational marijuana.

The question of marijuana legalization runs far deeper than many initially anticipate. One of the most startling factors is the fact that marijuana inmates cost prisons \$1 billion each year, money that surely could have been spent more efficiently than on petty nonviolent crimes of possession, often being the very first offense of teenagers, thus introducing them to the world of social marginalization.

If incarcerating juveniles for

possession of marijuana isn't bad enough, a black person is 3.73 times more likely to be arrested for marijuana-related "crimes" than a white person is, which is even more striking given the about equal usage of marijuana by blacks and whites. The issue of marijuana reveals the racial tension that still exists within our society, rearing its ugly head through archaic laws and biased arrests.

Laws exist to promote the general well-being of individuals in a society while protecting rights and freedoms. Many argue, and rightfully so, that the focus ought to be shifted from non-violent crimes to more serious matters. One germane example would be the fact that Denver's murder rate fell by 52.9% within a year following the legalization of marijuana. Furthermore, sexual assaults went down by 13.6%, robberies by 4.8%, and assaults by 3.7%.

While this doesn't necessarily imply that marijuana legalization caused this drastic decrease in crime rates, one must acknowledge the correlation between the two. Importantly, one must realize that once the police force doesn't have to worry about petty crimes such as marijuana possession, they can begin focusing on more serious crimes, those that bring incredible harm and disruption to the social fabric of a community.

Perhaps it is time to end this futile "war on drugs," an effort that has

proved to be quite ineffective over the past few years, and instead shift the focus to helping people escape socioeconomic circumstances that turn into vicious cycles.

To cast a blanket of prohibition on every drug while keeping alcohol and firearms legal doesn't appear to follow the logic that the prohibition of marijuana is to prevent potential harm, especially when the drug in question has caused astronomically fewer fatalities. The regulated sale of marijuana along with further funding and research into the possible pharmacological benefits of the substance should be considered, if not at least discussed in depth.

One of the beauties of living on a campus that is saturated with intellectual minds ready to converse about a slew of topics is that it allows for exactly the type of environment in which healthy conversations and debates can exist. It is important that we as students begin talking about this issue along with others, because the implications of our decisions will ultimately create the world we will one day live in. And it's finally our turn to vote, Lewiston.

The potential pitfalls of Obama's ISIS strategy

DAVID WEINMAN
MANAGING FORUM EDITOR

Only two weeks ago, President Obama addressed the nation in a primetime address in order to promote his plan to confront ISIS. After enduring weeks of criticism regarding his slow response to ISIS's strong gains in Syria and Iraq and regrettable declaration that "we don't have a strategy yet," the President faced the task of demonstrating that the United States maintained the capability and willpower to lead a coalition to dismantle this terrorist threat.

The President's plan relies upon "a systematic campaign of airstrikes" against ISIS in Syria and Iraq and providing assistance to the Iraqi security forces, the "vetted moderate" Syrian opposition, and other state allies in this campaign.

While pledging to "degrade and ultimately destroy" ISIS, Obama also placed clear constraints and limitations on the mission. The President promised that no American combat troops would be deployed to Iraq or Syria. Absent this type of ground invasion, the United States is forced to depend on other groups to fight the Islamic state.

However, most of these "allies" are unwilling or incapable of mounting a serious campaign to achieve Obama's stated goal of destroying ISIS. According to some reports, ISIS and some U.S. backed rebel groups have brokered a non-aggression pact which mutually agrees to cease fighting and focus on their common enemy, Bashar Assad.

While conflicting reports dispute the veracity of this arrangement, there certainly exists great evidence to question the loyalty of many elements of the opposition forces. Many ISIS members and leaders began the Syrian civil war as members of these so-called moderate groups. Even some rebel fighters have expressed concerns that weapons provided from the United States will be sold to ISIS.

Identifying the ideological inclinations of all resistance fighters in Syria in order to keep American weaponry out of enemy hands will surely be a difficult, if not impossible, task. The recent assassination of at least a dozen top leaders from the U.S.-aligned Ahrar al-Sham rebel group demonstrates the difficulties facing moderate forces that possess

inferior training and lack proper fighting expertise.

In Iraq, the United States will be forced to depend on Iranian-backed Shiite militias. Any additional support of these organizations will further expand Iranian influence in this country at the expense of our own. It remains uncertain whether Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi is willing to create or capable of creating a more Sunni-inclusive government to repair the damage from his predecessor's tenure and present a united front against ISIS.

Due to President Obama's indecisive posturing on this issue over the last few years, other potential Arab allies and enemies of the Islamic State, such as Saudi Arabia, doubt our commitment to see this fight through and therefore remain reluctant to further engage in this effort. Obama's speech also failed to address the Turkish government turning a blind eye to the continued smuggling of ISIS fighters, oil, and weaponry across its border into Syria. This arrangement has fueled ISIS's growth and allowed the terrorist organization to accumulate a strong revenue base.

With these sources of ISIS support intact and a weak regional ground-force opposition, it will be nearly impossible for the Islamic state to be defeated by the United States and its allies with airstrikes alone. While Obama's speech signaled his willingness to finally adopt a tougher approach towards the Islamic state in Iraq and Syria, his refusal to take more aggressive steps ensures that this conflict will continue for years to come. Regardless of the merit of the President's strategy, both political parties must discard any illusions of truly dismantling ISIS with this approach. Only by recognizing the consequences of our limited commitment can the United States truly prepare for the threat ISIS poses and the consequences of its barbaric continued reign in many parts of Iraq and Syria.

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Fear and loathing at Bates College

NICK MCCARTHY
ASSISTANT FORUM EDITOR

In the real world, there are police and there are judges. In the new Bates student-athlete conduct policy, it seems as though the judges are no longer a part of the picture.

Bates is at a unique turning point in its storied history. With a new President and a new Dean of Students, our future is looking bright. I hope that, ten years after I graduate, saying I went to Bates College in Lewiston, Maine means more than it does today to the outside world. Bates' reputation throughout the nation, and world, is not as strong as it ought to be, but that is changing. Every year, it seems, we are ranked higher and higher on national lists. Whether these rankings are arbitrary or accurate, they are a powerful indicator of national reputation, and I am proud to see our rankings continue to bolster in the world. But this positive change in reputation will reverse if we don't foster the right on-campus culture.

"Today, half the student body, the athletes, live in fear of Security," sophomore Andrew Segal said. "They live in fear of write-ups, live in fear of being in the wrong place at the wrong time, live in fear of a policy that they don't understand." The new student-athlete policy essentially relies on Security write-ups to judge conduct. Once a student-athlete gets two write-ups, they are essentially liable to immediately lose playing time, or, as it has so eloquently been put, "there will likely be a participation sanction." And the third "violation," regardless of how petty and inconsequential the write-ups may have been, will result in a suspension.

Within this policy lies an inherent issue: it is not Security's responsibility, nor their duty, to discipline students. Security is a reactionary force. They are there to regulate student activity only insofar as student behavior is unsafe or unhealthy. Fundamentally, they are there to help us, the students and members of the Bates community. They are not there to regulate playing time of student-athletes—but in the current system, they are basically given this power.

The College has deans in place that we have entrusted to uphold the law of the school and to discipline our students when they violate these laws. Why, then, are we usurping this power of school judiciary to the security force we have in place to protect us?

In the real world, there are police officers and there are judges. The police officers charge you with a crime—the judges decide, impartially, whether or not you are guilty of this crime.

Getting "written up" requires nothing more than being in the

wrong place at the wrong time. Maybe you're hanging out, drinking a beer with friends, and Security shows up and decides to stick it to you. Been there, done that. Well, let's say that happens twice. Remember, in this case, the individual has not necessarily been disruptive; they have not necessarily harmed the community; they have not necessarily engaged in behavior that is injurious to themselves or to others in the Bates and Lewiston-Auburn communities.

Yet this individual, because he or she has been written up twice in this manner, can now lose playing time. When you play eight games a year, like the football team, any loss of playing time is a massive loss. When you train all year for eight games, losing even a quarter of playing time because you were written up twice by Security, with no discretion from the deans, is unfair and unjust.

There are clear issues with this policy. First, it can obviously lead to increased conflict between student-athletes and Security. If the athlete's playing time is at stake, and the Security officers are given the power to take away playing time from student-athletes on a whim by "writing up" an individual, conflict between the two parties will arise on the front-end: out on the streets of Lewiston, or in a crowded quad in Smith.

Second, it can lead to binge drinking. Where drinking is in inelastic demand, cracking down on students leads to binge drinking. Students will drink regardless of policy, welcome to the real world. I discussed this in my last article, and there is vast scholarly literature about his phenomenon, so I will not hash it out further other than to say that when authority cracks down on responsible drinking on campuses, it leads to irresponsible, clandestine binge drinking behind closed doors.

There are various other issues with this policy, but the most glaring issue is this: the current system breeds fear and loathing. The athletes I have spoken to about the current student-athlete conduct policy fear its prospects and loathe its agents. That is not acceptable. No policy of this college should breed fear and loathing.

Limiting judiciary discretion on the part of deans, and usurping this judiciary power by instilling a quasi-autocratic security force that has the power to basically limit the playing time of our student-athletes by simply writing their name down, is a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad policy.

It will change, because it needs to change. Fear and loathing ought not to preside over this campus.

broken. It is so overused and untar- geted that it is more of a nuisance than a tool, more an annoyance than a solution. As Bates works to develop a more cohesive, informed community, it must also replace this antiquated system.

There are initiatives currently developing ways to improve this system, and I have been taking part in one such group. As the communications system at Bates becomes more targeted and more efficient, more people will be aware of the things they specifically want to be aware of. Cutting out the [announce] system does not decrease communications on campus. It does the opposite, because it increases communication and coordination. When the process is over and the [announce] system has been replaced with a more effective system, our communication will be clearer, our community members will be more engaged, and our campus will be stronger.

In essence, this article is an announcement in itself:

[Announce] Announce is dead.

ANNOUNCE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

the mix. If I have 30 emails to delete (I try to keep my inboxes at 0 at all times), the 10% of those that I actually care about can easily get misplaced, archived, or placed in the trash. I know this is a rampant issue for others on this campus as well. Some students have even chosen to abandon these emails entirely by using filters, due to the inconvenience they cause with their overwhelming accumulation in our inboxes. This leaves students vulnerable to ignorance.

We need to improve our communications system at this college, because if we cannot effectively communicate, we cannot effectively coordinate. It seems that the average student spends more time deleting [announce] emails than actually reading the announcements themselves.

If the point of the [announce] system is to effectively circulate information that we specifically designate as vital to the community at large, then this system is blatantly

Comic Corner

KATE BOUCHARD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

#notashamed



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OFF-CAMPUS

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in case of any problems.”

When the Mountain Avenue students host gatherings, Gagnon explains they try to keep the noise level to a minimum. They also strive to keep up appearances, or keeping their yard clean so it does not disrupt the aesthetics of the neighborhood.

With great freedom comes great responsibility—something Gagnon, Rockwell, and the other off-campus residences are beginning to learn. As they continue to adjust, they are given a

chance to demonstrate and foster positive relations with the city in which we reside.

Strong adds that he himself is “prone to occasionally walking up the street at midnight,” but he manages to reserve his “most untamed, barbaric yawps for the sports field, for the arts, and for scholarly debate.” This restraint and show of good behavior can be exhibited by Batesies as well.

“I think Bates students living or walking in this, or any, neighborhood in Lewiston have great opportunity to put on a classy show and have fun doing it,” said Strong.

Students for Peace and Justice in Palestine returns to Bates

Pro-Palestinian group aims to highlight Israeli abuses



A student lights a candle in memory of those who lost their lives during the escalated violence in the Middle East this summer. ASHLEEN O'BRIEN/THE BATES STUDENT

DENALI NALAMALAPU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Roughly forty students huddled around the Puddle this Monday to reflect on the loss of lives in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict this summer. The vigil began with several readings of powerful poetry and testimonials. The night continued as students quietly strolled around candlelit aisles, taking time to reflect on the names of those lost.

This vigil was the joint effort of J Street U and a new group on campus, Students for Peace and Justice in Palestine. Originally founded by a Palestinian Bates alumna, SPJP has been revitalized by Robin Jones, a current senior. SPJP is a pro-Palestinian group that aims to spread awareness about the conflict on campus through organizing talks, orchestrating film viewings, and provoking thought and discussion.

In the organization's pro-Palestine stance, the leaders wish to support the Palestinian people in their struggle. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is more

present in our lives here in the States than one might think. The conflict continues to be in news headlines as tensions and death tolls rise. The cost of exported weaponry is present in our taxes. The Israel lobby in the United States has gathered significant strength and influence, which contributes notably to support from American politicians and the government as a whole. Jones sees great harm in the U.S. supplying weapons to Israel.

“Ultimately, it's our tax dollars contributing to the brutal killings of thousands of Palestinians,” Jones said. He argues that the result of the country's disproportionate support of Israel is not beneficial to the U.S. image in the Middle East, nor is it socially just. Hitting even closer to home, the Den seems to show unexpected support for the Israeli forces. Sabra, the brand of hummus sold in the Den, has been connected to the Golan Brigade, a brigade in the Israeli defense forces that is known for human rights abuses. Jones stated the SPJP hopes to work with the administration on con-

fronting issues like these. SPJP is very interested in following global movements as well, such as the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement (BDS). This is a growing global movement encouraging economic activism. BDS's work includes projects such as drafting plans to boycott Israel for its violations of human rights. Both BDS and SPJP are particularly focused on recognizing the Palestinian struggle and advocating for the people's rights. According to Jones, the pro-Palestinian strategy of pressure through global boycott of Israel is quite similar to systems that have worked elsewhere, such as apartheid in South Africa. The club is open to students with any amount of knowledge about the conflict, ranging from cursory glances at recent headlines to a dedicated following of the conflict over the past years. Bound to provoke passionate and in depth conversation regarding the Israeli-Palestinian struggle, the return of SPJP to campus is a great opportunity to delve into an issue that falls closer to home than one might think.

“The wRAp”

SARAH STANLEY
Representative Assembly

Welcome to your weekly update from the Bates College Student Government! BCSG representative Sarah Stanley will inform all students of the latest updates from BCSG through her new column, “The wRAp” (Weekly Representative Assembly Publication).

The Bates Student Government (BCSG), also known as the Representative Assembly (RA), held its first official meeting of the semester this week. Last week, an emergency meeting was held to vote on several co-sponsorships. The largest of these co-sponsorship requests was CHC's Icona Pop concert proposal. CHC's request was approved by the Student Government. If you are someone who finds yourself jammin' out to songs like “I Love It” and others like it, ticket sales will be happening soon!

The first regular meeting of the semester was also a productive night! The BCSG inducted several new members to the executive council: Tomas Jurgensen '17 (Chair), Allen Sumrall '16 (Parliamentarian), and Kat Harling '17 (Secretary). In addition to seating new members to the Executive Council, the Representative Assembly also approved the Astronomy Club's co-sponsorship request to attend the Acadia Dark Sky Festival, happening this weekend. The weather forecast projects that it will be a great night for stargazing! Lastly, the BCSG ended the meeting by approving two new clubs: (1) The Bates Aerodynamic & Energy Club (2) Justice in Palestine.

The Representative Assembly encourages and welcomes students to come to our meetings as well as visit our website <http://www.bates.edu/bcs/>. Weekly meetings are held **Sundays 4-5:30 pm upstairs in Commons.**



An estimated 400,000 people participated in the People's Climate March. ASHLEEN O'BRIEN/THE BATES STUDENT

MARCH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

started in the summer when senior Jordan Becker started planning the trip.

This march's timing is no coincidence. On Tuesday, Secretary General Ban Ki-moon hosted a Climate Summit in where he requested that heads of state, finance, and business among others, to propose new ideas and pledge new actions in the fight for the reduction of emissions. Other topics included the use of fossil fuels and other activities

considered detrimental to the environment. Many hope that the summit will lead to meaningful agreements between leaders to take steps by 2015 so that global temperatures will not rise more than two degrees Celsius.

While students paid twenty dollars to cover for transportation services, the march itself was not for profit. The coordinators of the People's Climate March did not ask for a participation fee, merely participation.

The march, which lasted from 11:30 A.M. to around 4:00 P.M., started along West 65th Street and ended on West 34th, with marchers walking along

Central Park and Times Square during the procession. The march has now been declared the largest climate march in history, with over 400,000 people traversing 26 blocks the NYPD blocked off for the occasion. To put things in perspective, the next largest march (which Bates College also attended) was last year's Forward on Climate March, where 40,000 people walked.

Among those who attended the People's Climate March were over 300 college organizations and students from all 50 states. Of those college students, 60 were from Bates. In addition to college students, many notable environmentalists were present: Bill McKibben, Leonardo DiCaprio, Jane Goodall, Vandana Shiva, as well as politicians like Charles Schumer, Al Gore, and even Ban Ki-moon.

While many have criticized the lack of coverage on large networks, students still feel that it was a worthwhile endeavor.

First-year Jenny Rosenfield explains, “I've been to other climate rallies and protests before, but I found this one to be extremely important, not only because it was projected to be the biggest climate protest in history but also because it was one of the first to incorporate so many other issues in terms of social justice. Environmental issues are human rights issues, and it was important that the march highlighted that.”

This was not the climate march to end all climate marches, but Batesies have left their prints on history.

MARIJUANA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

lations would remain a part of the three-strike system for the current academic year,” Steidel said.

Bates policy prohibits smoking in student dorms and academic buildings, which would make it harder for a student to smoke in a private place without violating Bates policy.

Dubey and Limbach offer alternatives to banning marijuana on campus and disciplining students.

“Bates can simply force people to smoke outside of their dorms like

[Bates] does with cigarettes,” Limbach said. “So what if it's pot, what's the difference?”

“I think you have to create a special area where people can smoke,” Dubey said. “Create a designated area so people don't get in trouble and those who choose not to smoke are not impacted.”

Rozas disagrees and feels that Bates should continue to ban marijuana on campus.

“From a student's perspective, I obviously wouldn't want it banned, but from the Deans' perspective it would be beneficial if it was banned,” Rozas states. “The perception of Bates by parents and students who are looking at the school from all around the country would be greatly impacted.”

While on-campus marijuana policies will not change this year regardless of the outcome of the referendum, Dean of Students Josh McIntosh is taking a “comprehensive look at alcohol on campus and the culture around it,” according to Steidel.

Students should still expect Bates Security to look out for marijuana usage on campus and to report incidents to the Dean of Students.

However, the current strike policy with regards to marijuana could change in the future.

“A thorough review of the strike system will absolutely take a look at where marijuana violations should fall and what our response should be,” Steidel said.

A brief breakdown of the College Alcohol and Drug Policy

Director of Security Thomas Carey speaks with The Student

HANNAH GOLDBERG
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

With new guidelines, a new Dean of Students, and a new school year, it is easy for students to get lost among Bates College student conduct policies. One question continued to resurface: How do drug and alcohol “paraphernalia” fit into the picture? What will happen if there is a shot glass on the table with no clear presence of hard alcohol, which Bates College strictly prohibits? If Security enters your room, what can they do? When does the Lewiston Police Department get involved?

The answers to these questions can be found in The College Alcohol and Drug Policy. The Bates Student reached out to Director of Security Thomas Carey to discuss the school's procedures.

The basic rules of student conduct remain cut and dry. Over two decades ago, Bates College adopted the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989, requiring the school to certify with the U.S. Department of Education that it had implemented a program to “prevent the illicit use of drugs and the abuse of alcohol by its students and employees.”

Bates is not a haven from the law; students are required to adhere to all laws in the state of Maine. Students under the age of 21 are not permitted to drink or possess any form of alcohol, and Bates has a strict ban on hard liquor to any member of the Bates community

regardless of age. If hard liquor is found, it will be disposed.

Furthermore, Security does not issue strikes in any situation. An officer will create a report with a student's information and forward it to the Dean of Students Office, where the disciplinary process will begin.

When it comes to possession of marijuana or smoking accessories, more information is needed. “Both the District Attorney's office as well as the LPD have told Security that they will allow Security to handle instances of possession of marijuana less than 2 ounces within the College system [of the disciplinary process],” said Carey.

More than 2 ounces of pot or any amount of other drugs will be directed to the Lewiston Police Department. Carey also explained how Security handles smoking paraphernalia. “If we observe the leftover of marijuana, etc. on any paraphernalia such as pipes, bongs, scales, they will be seized and destroyed as well.”

In relation to alcohol, Security will not seize a shot glass, wine glass, or beer mug without visible contents in it. However, any keg or tapping systems not registered under the school's blue slip system will be confiscated without return; this includes a keg that is at a blue-slipped event but has failed to be registered individually.

The Bates Student does not condone any behavior against Bates College policies but simply seeks to inform students and members of the Bates community.

Iced chai and morning hours: Le Ronj reopens with style

AMANDA SAN ROMAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

"Chai or die." That's the mysteriously enticing motto of the Ronj, which opened back up for the school year on Wednesday. Located at 32 Frye Street, the Ronj is Bates' only student-run coffee house.

The opening was a great success, as the first ten people in line were guaranteed free Ronj t-shirts. Those who showed up ten minutes too late, however, still got to enjoy the new iced chai latte for just one dollar. Even though Wednesday evening was Dollar Chai Night, most of the Ronj drinks don't cost more than two dollars. With prices like these, it's no wonder the Ronj's re-opening was met with enthusiasm and a long wait in line.

The coffee house's hours have been extended this year to include a morning shift, so early bird students on Frye Street can now get their fix of morning caffeine without having to walk to Commons for mediocre coffee.

Nothing at the Ronj is mediocre. Although they always (deservingly) boast about their chai, they offer so much more than that. They have a variety of coffee drinks, tea, and hot chocolate flavors each day. Farther into the heart of fall, the Ronj will often serve apple chaidier, a delectable combination of apple cider and chai. (Is there anything more deliciously autumn than that?) In addition to the wide range of beverages, they also have freshly baked cookies and brownies for sale, as well as snacks and candy, all of which are very reasonably priced.

Not only can you find the world's best chai latte there, but you can also find homey, warm rooms with comfortable couches, desks, and the most fantastic wall decorations. The environment is somewhat Zen; there's something indescribably lovely about writing a geology paper while looking at hand-painted rainbows and forests on the walls



TAYLOR BLACKBURN/THE BATES STUDENT

around you.

Not only are there smaller rooms for individual or small group study sessions, but there are also larger rooms that are perfect for club meetings, rehearsals, and performances. The student-run improv group, the Strange Bedfellows, often perform to a packed crowd in the Thunderdome.

Contributing to the Zen vibe is the amazing staff, who also mostly say that their favorite thing about the Ronj is simply the atmosphere around it.

Adam Figuciredo '15 thinks his favorite thing is the "chill vibes" that the Ronj has to offer. Advertising

and accounting manager Ali Haku-sui '15 says that she loves the Ronj for "the community and friendship" that it fosters.

"I love that it's student-run. It makes us equally accountable and invested in what we do," said stocking manager Max Pendergast '15. Clearly, there's no lack of passion served up at the Ronj.

And so, after an amazing opening, the Ronj is officially back in business. If it's a late night cappuccino you're looking for or just a quiet, comfortable place to do some work away from the library, then the Ronj is the place for you.

WEEKLY verse

*If you're a poet and know it,
or don't, submit a verse!*

Email mbodnar@bates.edu

THE SURROUNDING CITY

By Nicole Danser

Without shifting my eyes to the clock
I know it is thirty minutes until midnight.

These trains mourn like dogs
These trains are baritone tea kettles
These trains cannot talk long but
Waaaaant waaaaaant waaaaaant
you to know they're leaving you.

Tomorrow morning
the entire dawn will be a bakery.

This factory hums like your aproned mother.
This factory is a chain smoker
This factory places its bread on the windowsill
and you volunteer to
cast it, cast it, cast it
upon the canal water.

There's a rock on the edge of the cemetery
that juts out like a stubborn chin into the river.

This rock crouches like a housecat that has
noticed a bird out the window
This rock is not the mattress they advertise on
television at 2 am Tuesday nights
This rock does not care about what it is not
and beckons you to
Rest, rest, rest
as even something hard and cold can be
comforting.

Glasses, kisses, and awkward situations: "New Girl" returns with hope for a better season

EMILY PINETTE
STAFF WRITER

The fourth season of the sitcom "New Girl" premiered last Tuesday evening. Viewership has been steadily declining, and while the fourth season's first episode was adequate, it is clear that the show is not the clever comedy it once was.

"New Girl" first aired in 2011 as a quirky and humorous show about the life of schoolteacher Jess, played by Zooey Deschanel. In the pilot, Jess suffers a tough breakup and moves into an apartment with three single guys, Nick, Schmidt, and Winston. Among the other main characters and included in the hijinks are Jess' childhood friend Cece and another roommate, Coach. Much of the show revolves around the late-twenty-something friends encountering awkward and comical situations.

A main draw of the show has always been the will-they-or-won't-they relationship between Jess and Nick. The suspense and sexual tension quickly dissolved after the two shared a first kiss in the second season. I'm all for having shippable characters get together, but really? They couldn't have waited longer than one-and-a-half seasons? After all, it took Jim and Pam until the fourth season of "The Office" to officially start dating; J.D. and Elliot didn't start a real relationship until the eighth season of "Scrubs."

All of this is for good reason. The uncertainty surrounding whether two main characters will get together is highly entertaining to watch. Setting it up for Jess and Nick to start dating so early in the show, however, was like getting ice



TAYLOR BLACKBURN/THE BATES STUDENT

cream before having dinner; you like it, but a part of you wishes it hadn't come so quickly.

The plot of the show weakened after that, with almost the entirety of season three of "New Girl" revolving around Jess and Nick's relationship. Sophomore Katie Stevenson agrees, "The show started to go downhill during the second season."

While season three disappointed many fans, the premiere last week suggested a turn in the better direction. Although the plotline wasn't extraordinary--the gang was attempting to all get lucky at the last wedding of the summer--the jokes recalled the glory days of the

show. Especially amusing was the character of Schmidt, whose obsessive drive to have a four-way with the wedding's bridesmaids led to his characteristically weird quotes ("Go to housekeeping [and] have them give you as many shower caps as they'll give you").

Also impressive in the episode was the guest appearance by Jessica Biel, who was perfectly cast as the type-A girl vying for the best man against Jess. In a twist, both girls reject him, resulting in all members of the gang going home solo. Jess shows her friends that really they aren't alone, because they're all heading back to their apartment to-

gether.

The ending is, of course, incredibly corny, but that's part of the charm of *New Girl*. After the premiere, sophomore Tessa Holtzman, who dressed up as Zooey Deschanel for Halloween last year, noted that she is "interested to see where the show is headed."

Although the show doesn't set up romantic relationships in the best way, it wins when it focuses on the friendships within the group. If this season concentrates on that instead of awkward dating dynamics, "New Girl" has the chance to be a hit once again.

Filmboard preview: *The Grand Budapest Hotel*

MARY ANNE BODNAR
MANAGING ARTS EDITOR

"It's an extremely common mistake. People think the writer's imagination is constantly at work, that he's constantly inventing an endless supply of incidents and episodes; that he simply dreams up his stories out of thin air. In point of fact, the opposite is true. Once the public knows you're a writer, they bring the characters and events to you."

These are the first lines spoken in *The Grand Budapest Hotel*, and as usual for a Wes Anderson film, they sum up perfectly both the adventures displayed in the film and Mr. Anderson's approach to art-making.

For those who are unfamiliar with Anderson's work, to step inside his films is to venture to the most aesthetically pleasing realms of our earth, where the very foundations of life tiptoe on the edge of the absurd. We don't quite believe that any of the pristinely framed events in pastel colors actually ever happened, but we don't commit ourselves to the opposite, either.

But what he lets us know in the opening lines written above is that he doesn't imagine these worlds. In reality, their essence is extracted from the most extravagant characters of his life and then (hopefully) exaggerated on screen. Tim Burton's films give us far off and frankly dis-

See GRAND BUDAPEST, PAGE 6

Our Lethal Language: *The Flame Alphabet* shows the importance of human communication

HALLEY POSNER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

What would happen to society if words were poisonous? Ben Marcus explores the consequences of toxicity of language in his book entitled *The Flame Alphabet*. This dynamic author poses the question, if language is lethal how does society communicate?

Marcus builds a dystopian world to test this question. One of the central ideas to his novel is what it means to be a community and what defines a community. Can it be as big as a country or as small as a family unit?

Through the decision to make his protagonist and narrator male, Marcus adds another layer of individuality to set his book apart. Most often, the narrator is an omniscient one, a female, or sometimes the perspective switches between multiple characters. With a man leading the story, the audience gets a different perspective.

By starting his book in the middle of the action, Marcus gives a shock to the unassuming reader. This serves two purposes; first, the audience has no base with which to compare current events. This gives Marcus complete control of the reader's headspace. Second, by starting at the root of the problem,

Marcus primes the rest of the story for the actual quest for the answer.

Problems take on an interesting form in his book. Marcus writes, "*Blame is interesting*, but be careful. It's a dangerous strategy." Finding the culprit for problems may be easy, but making sure it is the right offender is the tricky part.

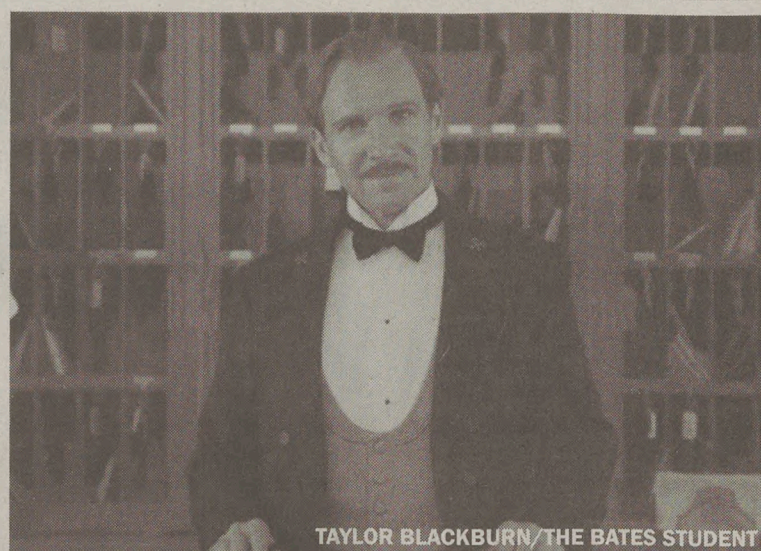
Marcus comments on the current state of family life by creating a dysfunctional family unit as the axis around which the story revolves. Sam, the protagonist, and his family are the focal point of the novel, though they do not stay one cohesive unit throughout. Some of the turbulence results from Sam's tempestuous relationship with his daughter, Esther. Marcus explores the smaller unit to show how broken relationships can be if the only mode of communication hurts one member of the equation. With only this example as a guide, Marcus leads the reader to imagine what his world looks like by looking at the experience of Sam and Esther.

The other group that Marcus centers his book around is a religious one. An interesting technique that the author employs is to take the Jewish religion and innovate it to fit his dystopian society. The evolution and eventual redemption of the Jewish religion begs the question of the part in society that ethnic, cultural,

and religious groups play. They can give a place to go and provide security, or others can target them as scapegoats. Marcus blurs the line between those two ideas to suggest a frightening thought—maybe these groups are not mutually exclusive.

At the core of the narrative is the uncertainty Sam has about his own identity. As time progresses in the book, Sam finds himself in different conditions that require him to alter himself. In order to adapt to the new situation, he compromises his individuality. This character needs to figure out which parts of himself are worth preserving and which he must change in order to survive in this new society.

Identity, family, and religion share a common theme, that of communication. Marcus leaves his readers with an alarming thought, "[t]his was not a disease of language anymore, it was a disease of insight, understanding, *knowing*." This evolution goes to the very root of our society. Marcus begs the reader to look at the world today and think about the repercussions of failed communication, of families and societies not listening to each other. These repercussions are indeed very real and just on the horizon, unless our society decides to change.



TAYLOR BLACKBURN/THE BATES STUDENT

GRAND BUDAPEST CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

turbingly saggy-eyed characters, but Anderson's characters possess the qualities found in the farthest corners of our lives that actually make their quirks the most lovable qualities.

The Grand Budapest Hotel is not without its extravagant characters. The trailer alone reveals the superb cast that includes Ralph Fiennes, Jude Law, Bill Murray, Saoirse Ronan, Tilda Swinton, and Adrien Brody, among others.

The story follows Gustave H. (Ralph Fiennes), a "legendary" concierge at the Grand Budapest Hotel, and his lobby boy, "Zero," as they get tangled up in the theft of a valuable artwork, the dividing of a valuable family estate, and the affairs of the men and women at the hotel. We watch them as they adventure around Europe between wars to cake shops, monasteries, and ski resorts, strengthening their mutual admiration for the other along the way. Like many Wes Anderson films, the plot contains activity from seemingly distant genres. There are courtyard gunfights, intimate scenes

in the back of a cake shop, chase scenes on alpine skis, and Ralph Fiennes sleeping with an eighty-three-year-old woman. Thankfully, the latter is only talked about.

With these extravagant characters and surprising adventures, Anderson pulls off the great cinematic feat of making us love the people and places we're watching. We don't really understand why or how the situations occur and characters make decisions, but we trust the logic and the consequences of the film. The fact that Gustave H. has a tendency of sleeping with eighty-three-year-old women who pass through the hotel isn't as bothersome when we see him lean over her casket a few scenes later and say, "You look wonderful darling, you really do. I don't know what kind of cream they've put on you down at the morgue, but I want some." He's not being sarcastic because we can see in Fiennes's doting expression that he genuinely admired and possibly loved this old lady. Or we could just go with the explanation he gives us a few lines later: "I go to bed with all my friends."

Grand Budapest Hotel is playing at the Filmboard this Friday, Saturday, and Sunday for \$1.

Comic Corner

KATE BOUCHARD
CONTRIBUTING CARTOONIST



Question on the Quad

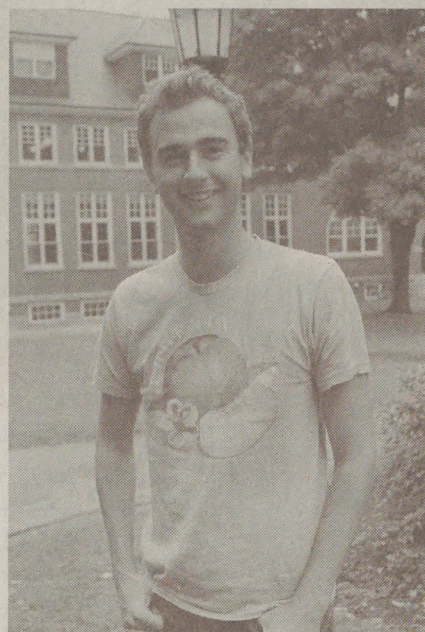
What gets *you* through Sundays?

KELSEY SCHOBERT
TEDDY RUBE
STAFF WRITERS



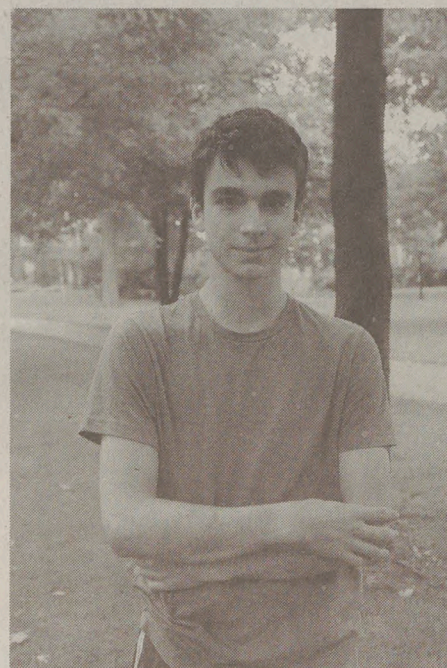
"Aesop Dinner!"

- Becky Moore '15



"I'm going to go order some Asian cuisine. I'm trying Lewiston Variety II."

- Max Alley '16



"The thought of three different meals on Monday."

- Dylan Desjardin '18



"I love Sundays!"

- Erica Veazey '16

Men's soccer struggling in NESCAC play

Despite taking an early lead against Wesleyan, men's soccer drops their home contest on Saturday by a tally of 2-1.



Midfielder Luis Pereira '15 looks upfield. SARAH CROSBY/BATES COLLEGE

NOAH LEVICK
MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR

Bates absolutely shocked Wesleyan just 30 seconds or so into the contest after a quick goal. That early surprise, however, ultimately failed to translate to an upset and instead triggered a series of dangerous offensive forays from the Cardinals that eventually felled the Bobcats.

Sophomore Peabo Knoth opened the scoring, chipping Wesleyan senior goalie Emmett McConnell. The Bobcats were unable to seriously test McConnell for the rest of the game, recording only one more shot on goal, which McConnell saved.

Junior goalie Sam Polito kept Bates in the game with his five saves, allowing the team to retain hope of getting something from a matchup that looked rather one-sided on paper. Though Wesleyan barraged Bates with 27 shots (seven on goal), a draw seemed possible until the 67th minute.

After conceding the equalizer to Wesleyan's Brandon Sousa in the 18th minute, Matt Lynch capitalized on a rebound opportunity and essentially sealed the game for the Cardinals. Still, Bobcat junior Luis Pereira nearly netted on a shot in the 88th minute to even the score. In all fairness, even though Bates fought admirably, a draw would've been a

bit harsh on Wesleyan.

Bates is currently without a win on the season and without a point in NESCAC play. The Bobcats are 0-5-1 overall.

With the exception of their 4-0 defeat to Tufts and 2-0 loss against Hamilton, all of Bates' losses as of September 22nd have been by a one-goal margin. As the grind of NESCAC play continues, they'll aim to turn some of those close losses into clutch wins.

Top 10 Bates athletes: #9 Herb Taylor '84

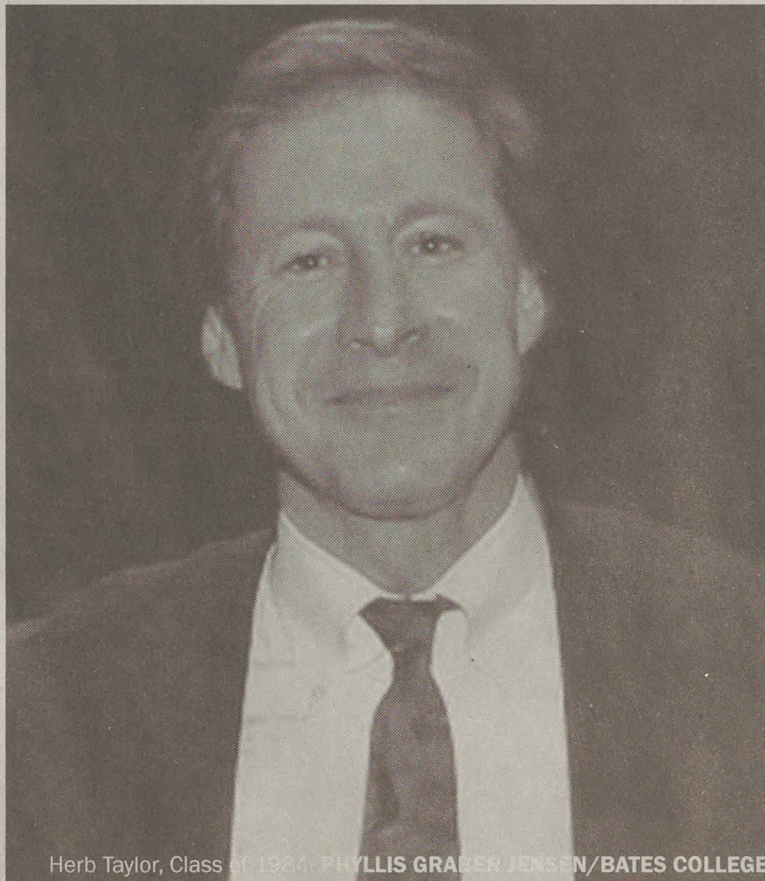
Bates' only All-American in basketball earns a spot on the list of the best Bobcat athletes ever.

JAMO KARSTEN
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Welcome to this week's edition of counting down the top ten Bates athletes of all time. Noah and I have arduously researched the plethora of prominent Bates athletes throughout the past century and a half, pouring over lists of All-Americans, Bates record books, and post-collegiate accomplishments. Let me tell you, this has not been an easy process. A list of over twenty names emerged from our research, and admittedly it was a challenge narrowing it down to our top ten, given the criteria we established and outlined in last week's article about our #10 athlete, David Chamberlain '98. The remaining Batesies on our list have exciting stories and amazing accomplishments, and we can't wait to share them all with you.

For number nine on our list, we have selected the basketball superstar from the 1980s, Herb Taylor '84. Taylor brings an impressive résumé to the table; he's truly a complete candidate, and worthy of cracking the top ten. Taylor is the only All-American men's basketball player Bates has ever had; he did it twice, receiving the award from the National Association of Basketball Coaches after his junior and senior seasons. In addition to being the singular Bates basketball All-American, Taylor also was an Academic All-American during his time at Bates, graduating with a degree in Economics and receiving high honors for his thesis. After his time in Lewiston, he went on to receive his M.B.A. from the Harvard School of Business and his Master of Divinity from the Boston University School of Theology. He is now an ordained minister, and just this past February Taylor accepted a position as the new pastor at the Harvard-Epworth United Methodist Church, located in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Well-rounded is simply not a sufficient description for Herb Taylor.

Taylor is no stranger to the Bates men's basketball record books,



Herb Taylor, Class of 1984. PHYLLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE

either. During his Bates career, he played for the winningest basketball coach in Bates history, the iconic George Wigton. The unselfish Taylor is most renowned as the all-time assist leader in Bates history. Taylor tallied 498 assists throughout his career, aiding Dave Kennedy '86, the second leading scorer in Bates history, with plenty of dimes to spark his own successful career at Bates during the two years that they played together. During Taylor's senior season, Kennedy set the record for most field goals (204) scored by a Bates basketball player in one season as a sophomore, no doubt in large part due to the court management of Taylor. During Taylor's freshman year, he was part of a game in which Bates set the school single-game record for most team assists with 39 against Norwich. Individually, Taylor holds the record for most free throws made in a game, going 18-19 against Amherst his sophomore

year. He is in the 1,000-point club at Bates as well, coming in as the 13th all-time leading scorer with 1,205 points.

In my research into the career of Herb Taylor, I tried to scrounge up any sort of footage of Taylor playing for Bates back in the days of short shorts and the original Nike basketball shoes. Unable to find anything substantial, I felt compelled to pay my respects to the point guard position and found myself searching for footage of the greatest passer the game of basketball has ever seen, John Stockton. While imagining the likeness in Taylor's and Stockton's style of play, and noticing a slight resemblance in their kind and humble expressions, it all of a sudden became easy to picture Taylor, tearing around Alumni Gymnasium with equal grace and composure, setting the NESCAC and the Bates community on fire with his prowess both on and off the court.

Bates intramural leagues: A broken system

Many Bates students who had hoped to play intramural sports in the fall were not allowed to participate.

JOHN NEUFELD
STAFF WRITER

September 2013: I was a brand new Batesie and, like my peers, I was looking to get involved in as many activities as possible. Intramural soccer was one of the undertakings I decided to commit my time to. I had played soccer all my life, but knew that I did not have the talent or the time to play at a varsity level. So I logged on to IMleagues.com and signed up for a team. I knew no one on the team I signed up for. By the end of the year, this group of guys and girls gave me some of my best friends and an incredible part of my college experience. IM soccer helped me to form friendships not only on my team, but with the other teams we competed against as well. JB turf and the Grey Cage were part time battlefields where, twice a week, glory was won and lost through the wonderful medium of sports. Intramurals were an integral part of my first year at Bates College.

September 2014: The start of my second year at Bates began earlier than for most, as I helped the freshmen start their Bates careers during orientation week. As any freshman will tell you, there were a myriad of activities for them to participate in. Designed to help new students meet other freshmen and make friends, the activities were widespread and varied. One activity that I led was pick-up soccer. A lot of the freshmen that showed up were really interested in playing IM soccer and I encouraged them, describing how much fun I had my first year.

A couple weeks later, however, my view of the IM system changed drastically. It started with an email from McKell Barnes, the head softball coach and administrator for fall IM soccer.

"Unfortunately, the IM Competitive Soccer League is full. Therefore, we are unable to accommodate you for this league's schedule," the email stated. At first glance, I ignored the email, thinking it was some kind of mistake. How could a college not allow for everyone who shows interest to participate in an IM sport? After talking to my teammates, I realized this was real, and for some reason our team was not going to be able to play this year.

Several of us emailed Coach Barnes to see what could be done. My email to her inquired as to why our team was refused entry, and asked what steps could be taken to amend this. She explained that each league has a maximum number of teams due to limitations on space and time slots, and that since my team had not reached the minimum number of players before others team did, we were refused entry into the league. She also suggested that I try to see if I could tag along on some other team that needed extra

players. I didn't bother to email her back.

I want to make it clear that I am in no way attacking Coach Barnes or blaming her for the refusal of certain teams into the league. She has to work within her given system, in this case the Bates IM League. I would like to thank her for responding to my email promptly and informatively.

Unfortunately, I don't think Coach Barnes grasped that the main reason for our concern was not the fact that we couldn't play soccer, but that we couldn't play soccer together. And this is where I think the Bates IM system needs to be improved. The bond between my teammates and me could only have been formed through competing together, and I believe that everyone who wants to should have the opportunity to play an IM sport and form the lasting friendships that teammates have.

According to the Bates IM website, "The philosophy of intramurals is to provide competitive activities for those who do not have the opportunity to participate on the varsity, junior varsity, and intercollegiate club teams."

When push comes to shove, though, this philosophy apparently goes right out the window. Rather than go through the time and effort to figure out a way to allow complete participation, Bates takes the easy way out and just closes the door. As a result, for the fall season, 40 students will not be able to play competitive IM soccer, and coincidentally, the exact same number will not be able to play recreational soccer.

Oskar Hall, a sophomore who also was informed he could not be accommodated, commented, "IM was the highlight of my week. Bates needs to accommodate this increase in popularity."

Steps need to be taken to provide all Bates students with the option to participate in IM sports. Of the six IM sports offered this fall, five of them denied access to people. It is ridiculous that a college cannot organize its resources to allow its students to participate in IM sports. For soccer, I doubt the JB turf is in use every night between nine and eleven o'clock at night. It seems relatively easy to add an extra day of play to provide more people with opportunities to play IM soccer. And if they need extra referees, which is a paid position, I'm sure plenty of people would jump at the chance to make a little money with an on-campus job.

It seems to me that this problem is easy to resolve. I would love to talk with whoever runs the entire Bates IM system to discuss viable options that would provide the Bates student population with the opportunity to play an IM sport if they so choose.

READ.THINK.SHARE

The Bates Student

Football loses season opener in game of inches

The Bobcat football squad nearly upset NESCAC favorites Amherst.

NOAH LEVICK
MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR

Three yards. That's all that separated the Bates football team from a season-opening win over Amherst, a NESCAC co-champion in 2013. After senior quarterback Matt Cannone's one-yard touchdown run with 1:16 remaining in the final quarter made it 7-6, coach Mark Harriman decided to attempt a two-point conversion to try to take a late lead as opposed to the safer option of an extra point. Though an impressive win over a top NESCAC contender eluded the Bobcats when an Amherst defender snared Cannone's pass, there are plenty of positives the team can build on heading into their upcoming game against Tufts.

For one, Gilbert Brown, a senior co-captain who anchors the defense as a linebacker for the Bobcats, fully supports Harriman's aggressive call to go for two and believes it represents the team's confident, bold mentality.

"Personally I liked [the conversion attempt], as opposed to past years when we would be conservative and tie the game with an extra point; this year we are all or nothing! What I mean by that is, as a team and coaching staff we feel that we should have a chance to win every game no matter the opponent," Brown said. "I think it was the right decision ten out of ten times."

The defense that Brown led did a solid job of containing the dangerous Amherst offense, picking off quarterback Alex Berluti twice and recovering two fumbles. Senior safety Ryan Newson snagged both interceptions. Newson, who also tallied 10 tackles, has been tasked with filling the star-studded shoes of Andrew Kukesh '14. In his first game replacing the perennial First Team All-NESCAC honoree, New-

son exemplified the defense's gritty mentality.

"Our mindset is to force a lot of turnovers and to be the most physical unit on the field," Newson said. "No matter where the ball is or what the situation, our defense plays a relentless and physical style of football."

Another defensive standout for the Bobcats was sophomore linebacker Mark Upton, who humbly declined a request for comment in this story due to his desire to let the senior captains speak for the team. On the field, Upton's play said a lot about both his potential and his diligent efforts to maximize that ability. Following a freshman campaign in which he tallied 30 tackles, Upton had a team-high 11 tackles in the opener.

"It was an overall team effort but certainly our younger athletes such as [linebacker Ben] Coulibaly '17, Upton, [cornerback Brandon] Williams '17, and others all set the tone for what it takes to play in our defense," commented Brown. "These guys work their tails off day in and out and it's no surprise that they shined in the game."

For the Bates offense, the wide receivers had a bit more of a chance to shine than they did last season. Cannone threw the ball 31 times against Amherst, completing 17 passes for 113 yards and throwing three interceptions. He also ran 27 times for 57 yards and the aforementioned late, lone touchdown. Junior wide receiver Mike Riley caught a career-high eight passes from Cannone, while fellow receiver and senior co-captain Mike Tomaino snagged four balls for 34 yards.

Tomaino explained that the Bates offense tries to alter its approach depending on the defense they're facing. "I think the coaches do a great job of taking what the defense gives us, so I think it depends



Quarterback Matt Cannone '15 stretches for the end zone. GEOFFREY BOLTE/CLARUSSTUDIOS.COM

on the opposition. With that said, having the option to throw the ball will be make us a more efficient offense because the run game and the passing game are reliant on each other," he says.

Though the Bobcats' air attack was featured more than expected, the team will aim for better production on the ground in the future. Counting Cannone's 57 yards rushing, Bates ran for 133 yards, significantly less than their average of 231.5 yards per game last season.

Larry Guinee, a senior co-captain and the team's center, was frustrated by the mistakes that prevented the offense from having a more productive day.

"I wouldn't chalk it up to just the turnovers. We need to improve on executing our individual assignments and playing with much more focus," Guinee said. "Missed assignments and penalties, along with the turnovers, were real drive-killers for us."

Before you gear up to watch the squad for the first time Saturday

afternoon, there's one more player you should be on the lookout for. You might usually lose focus when it's time for the special teams unit, waiting for the exciting clash of offense vs. defense to commence. That would be a mistake this weekend, because you would miss seeing the NESCAC Special Teams Player of the Week in action, senior punter David Kurey. The typically underappreciated Kurey garnered recognition for a performance in which he punted nine times, averaging 42.3 yards, and pinning Amherst inside the 20 three times. As any player will tell you, executing the small details that are so essential in special teams plays an integral role in the team's success.

Considering that Tufts ended an unfathomable 31-game losing streak in their first game of the season against Hamilton, notching the first win of the season Saturday might seem like a mere formality for the Bobcats. Nevertheless, the team wants to focus on performing their best in every outing and taking each

game as a serious obstacle.

"While we played well against Amherst, I think this program has moved past 'moral victories' and we are ready to take the next step and beat these top-tier teams," said Tomaino. "While we are certainly not discouraged because we have seven more games to compete, as a whole we were disappointed that we didn't complete goal one, which was to beat Amherst. In order to beat Tufts, we are going to have to learn from our mistakes through watching film and continuing to get better in practice."

Despite the inevitable discouragement of dwelling on those agonizing three yards, Cannone boldly and succinctly sums up what he learned about the team.

"The one major take away from the game at Amherst was it was evident how much heart this team has," Cannone said. "We have many players that played with a lot of passion, and that is something that will carry us this season."

Women's Soccer wins dramatic contest over Wesleyan

Julia Rice '16 nets golden goal in overtime.



The Bobcats celebrate a winning goal by Julia Rice '16. PHYLLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE

JAMO KARSTEN
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The women's soccer season so far has had one heck of a roller coaster ride. The way things are shaping up, it looks like the team's games are only going to continue to be just as

thrilling.

The girls opened up their NESCAC schedule with a crushing 6-0 defeat at the hands of the Tufts Jumbos. They bounced back with a dramatic victory against Hamilton, then were set back with a tough 1-0 loss against Bowdoin last Wednesday.

But the team got right back on their feet, winning in overtime 1-0 this past Saturday against Wesleyan University, pulling their conference record even at 2-2, and their overall record for the year to 4-2.

In conference play, games are decided by the golden goal format,

which means that if regulation time ends in a tie, the first team to score a goal in either of the two overtime periods automatically wins. So when Julia Rice '16 knocked in the game winner in the 99th minute on Saturday, the atmosphere was euphoric at Russell Street Field.

Ana Urbina '17 had this to say about all of the close games the Bobcats have played so far in their gritty NESCAC schedule: "It makes it exciting to know that there is competition, and to know that we are equal to them and that we could beat them, and it could go either way."

The win Saturday preserved Bates' perfect home record so far this season, and earned them three more points in the NESCAC standings, moving them into a four-way tie for third place with six total points so far.

"It's exciting, but it's scary and nerve-racking all at the same time" said Alexa Adams '17 of the games they have played so far. "Regardless of rank, on any given day, any team could win, and so we know that we have to fight until the last minute. It

really could go either way; you saw that in the Hamilton game."

Wins like the one this past weekend are invigorating for a team that deals with one of the toughest conferences in all of Division III. Looking forward, the women's team is feeling confident after the Wesleyan victory, with the Tufts opener a distant memory.

"The Tufts game definitely didn't show what we are capable of doing," said Urbina, and the team's record supports that analysis, as they have won three of four games since the loss.

On Wednesday night, the team will face Maine Maritime at home before heading south this weekend for two more huge conference games, against Trinity on Saturday and Amherst on Sunday.

"We are really excited for these games," said Adams. And if the past is any indicator, Adams and the rest of the team have a lot to be excited about.



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